228 EAST MAIN STREET, WESTMINSTER

ZIMMERMAN HOUSE

This is refreshing as an architectural rarity in Westminster. Its soul is clear - a normal small wood frame house of 3 bays, 2½ stories, side hall. However, its builder, Paul A. Zimmerman, adapted this basic form to fit the aesthetic needs (i.e., fashions) of the day. Zimmerman found the basic Westminster House an easy form to update, enlivening the skyline by adding a corner tower and different-sized gables, by using white imbricated shingles, and by stringing courses of turned spindles under the front porch's eaves. This totally 3-dimensional building marks a change in treatment, as many of the town's simple buildings easily could be read as paintings; this is one that makes good use of space and planes.

The land, half of lot 41 of the original town, remained unimproved until bought by Zimmerman in 1905. Zimmerman used the already existing building (226 East Main) as rental property, after he and his family moved into this house constructed (according to his daughter, the present owner) in 1906.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

6703594704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

NAME				
HISTORIC				
	Zimmerman House			
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION	J			
STREET & NUMBER	228 East Main Street	(MD 32)	6	
CITY, TOWN	220 Last Main Street	(ID 32)	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	ICT
CITT, FORTH	Westminster	VICINITY OF	Carroll	
STATE			COUNTY	
	Maryland			
CLASSIFIC	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	_BOTH	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC
OBJECT	IN PROCESSBEING CONSIDERED	X_YES: RESTRICTEDYES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
		TES. UNNESTRICTED		
	F PROPERTY	_NO	MILITARY	OTHER
NAME	F PROPERTY	· /		OTHER
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

__UNALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE

_XG00D

__RUINS

XALTERED

__FAIR

__UNEXPOSED

__MOVED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Huddled into the southwest corner of the intersection of Ralph Street and Main (Maryland Route 32) in Westminster is number 228 East Main Street, a small white Queen Anne - Eastlake House. Two and a half stories tall with a hexagonal three story tower, the house sits on the eastern half of lot 41 of the original town of Westminster.

The Main Street facade is dominated by the tower which acts as the eastern bay, and by the black asbestos covered 1 story shed roof porch, which slopes to the north, is supported by finely turned columns which are connected, below by simple balusters, and above by scores of turned spindles. The rest of the facade contains, on the ground floor beyond the porch, a central glass and two-panelled door, and an elongated single pane double-hung sash window to the west. All windows, including those on the turret, are identical in treatment (1/1 with louvered black shutters) and differ only in size. Above the porch, the second floor is the same as the first, except that the central bay is a window. Above this is the imbricated shingled corner turret, now a full hexagon, but with still only 3 northern windows, at the corner between two similarly shingled pedimented gables which spread over their respective facades (east and north). This skyline massing is one of the house's most interesting features, a massing enlivened by the hexagonal conical roof of the turret (complete with ball finial), and by the size differences between the gables (the eastern is larger and possesses a double window). These roofs are covered with black asbestos shingles.

Below the eastern gable, the east front stretches 4 bays to the south (the gable only covers the northern 2 bays). All windows are similarly treated and are identical to those on the north, except that the third window on each floor (counting from the north) is smaller. This facade is entirely covered in white clapboard and its gable roof is covered with black corrugated sheet metal.

There is a 1 story shed roofed addition to the south which has, on its south front, an elongated 1/1 window. Otherwise the south front is 3 bays wide with a small porch covering the western 2 bays. There is a central 5 panelled ground floor door; other bays are 1/1 windows. A small square flat-capped furnace flue rests in the center of this gable roofed section.

SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1906	BUILDER/ARCHITECT Paul A. Zimmerman			
		INVENTION			
X1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)	
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURÉ	SCULPTURE	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEULUGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Number 228 East Main Street, is a refreshing architectural rarity in Westminster. Its "soul" is extremely clear, a normal Westminster small wood frame house of 3 bays, 2½ stories, side hall. However, its builder, Paul A. Zimmerman, adapted this basic form to fit the aesthetic-intellectual needs (fashions) of the day. Zimmerman found it easy to update the basic shell, enlivening the skyline by adding the corner tower and the different sized gables, by using imbricated shingles, and by stringing scores of turned spindles under the eaves of the front porch. This totally 3-dimensional building marks a change in treatment, as many of the town's simple buildings could easily be read as paintings; this is one that more closely resembles sculpture.

The land, the eastern section of lot 41, remained unimproved until bought by Paul A. Zimmerman on September 21, 1905. Zimmerman used the existing building (number 226 East Main) as rental property, while he and his family lived at the nearby built (in 1906, according to his daughter, the present owner) house.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438



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